

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. LAURA RICHARDSON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 24, 2011*

Ms. RICHARDSON. On May 23, 2011, I was unavoidably detained during the vote on rollcall No. 330. Had I been present I would have voted as follows:

On rollcall No. 330, I would have voted "aye" (May 23) H.R. 1627, to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for certain requirements for the placement of monuments in Arlington National Cemetery, and for other purposes.

**A BILL TO AMEND THE ROBERT T. STAFFORD DISASTER RELIEF AND EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE ACT**

**HON. NICK J. RAHALL II**

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 24, 2011*

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to introduce a bill to amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to authorize Indian tribes to directly request the President for a major disaster or emergency declaration. This has been a priority for Indian country for over a decade and upon enactment, will treat Indian tribes as the sovereign governments that they are.

Currently, Indian tribes experiencing a disaster or emergency situation must rely upon a State governor to request the President for a declaration. Not only is this contrary to tribal sovereignty but it also requires the President to consider the State's, not the tribe's, ability to pay for the damages. The State's authority or willingness to provide assistance to the tribe is not considered in the determination process.

Under this legislation, tribes may still request the State to make the declaration on their behalf but it provides another avenue for those tribes who want to exercise their sovereignty or where a State may be unable or unwilling to make a request on a tribe's behalf.

I am pleased that the Republican co-chairman of the Native American Caucus, Mr. TOM COLE, and the Ranking Member of the subcommittee of jurisdiction, Ms. NORTON, agreed to cosponsor this important legislation with me. Letters of support have also been received from the National Congress of American Indians as well as other tribal organizations and individual Indians involved in emergency management.

I urge my colleagues to support this measure.

IN HONOR OF MARILYN DORMAN

**HON. SAM FARR**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 24, 2011*

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the career of Marilyn Dorman, who retires as the Executive Director of the Housing

Resource Center of Monterey County on May 31, 2011. The HRC is a non-profit HUD-certified housing counseling agency that provides home-ownership education and counseling as well as homeless prevention services. Marilyn has a real gift for grant writing, which has served the agency well as its primary fundraiser.

Marilyn has been active professionally and personally in the housing arena for over twenty-seven years. She was the founding Executive Director of the Housing Advocacy Council in 1984, which merged with the Monterey County Housing Alliance in 2009 to become the Housing Resource Center of Monterey County. Throughout her many years of service Marilyn advocated for the development of affordable low-income housing and worked tirelessly with direct assistance programs to prevent homelessness.

With the 2009 merger, Marilyn's focus expanded to include homeownership education and counseling, as well as foreclosure prevention and loan modification. To date, HRC has successfully modified over 200 loans for Monterey County homeowners. Collectively, the merged organization has served over 24,000 Monterey County households.

Marilyn has also been an active Board, Committee member, and volunteer for the Coalition of Homeless Services Providers, St. Paul's Episcopal Church, the Salinas Downtown Community Board, the ACTION Council of Monterey County, Common Ground, the League of Women Voters, Community Advisory Council for the Salinas Permit Center, Salinas Planning Commission, Salinas Parks and Recreation Commission, Salinas Housing Trust Fund, the Salinas General Plan Parks Task Force, Girl Scouts, and the Volunteer Services Coordinator for the Volunteer Center of Salinas.

Marilyn's husband of thirty-eight years, Mark, has been the grounding force in life. They have three grown daughters and two beautiful grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I know I speak for the whole House as I commend Marilyn Dorman for all she has done and all she will undoubtedly continue to do. I extend my most sincere thanks and warmest wishes for her success and much happiness in her retirement.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. CAROLYN MCCARTHY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 24, 2011*

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent because of a family illness on May 23, 2011. If I was present, I would have voted on the following:

H.R. 1627—rollcall No. 330: "aye"; H.R. 1383—rollcall No. 331: "aye"; H.R. 1657—rollcall No. 332: "aye."

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. BRUCE L. BRALEY**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 24, 2011*

Mr. BRALEY of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I regret missing floor votes on Monday, May 23, 2011. Had I registered my vote, I would have voted:

1. "Yea" on rollcall 330, On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, as amended, H.R. 1627—To amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for certain requirements for the placement of monuments in Arlington National Cemetery.

2. "Yea" on rollcall 331, On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, as amended, H.R. 1383—Restoring GI Bill Fairness Act of 2011.

3. "Yea" on rollcall 332, On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass H.R. 1657—To amend title 38, United States Code, to revise the enforcement penalties for misrepresentation of a business concern as a small business concern owned and controlled by veterans or as a small business concern owned and controlled by service-disabled veterans.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. JOHN A. YARMUTH**

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 24, 2011*

Mr. YARMUTH. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to cast the recorded votes for rollcall Nos. 330, 331, and 332. Had I been present I would have voted "yes" for these measures:

H.R. 1627—On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, as Amended, rollcall No. 330, "yes."

H.R. 1383—On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, as Amended, rollcall No. 331, "yes."

H.R. 1657—On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, rollcall No. 332, "yes."

**TEXAS FROG FREEDOM FIGHTER—  
MARCUS LUTTRELL**

**HON. TED POE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 24, 2011*

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, the Navy SEALs are the United States Navy's elite warriors. And last week we learned that they killed the most wanted terrorist of all, Osama bin Laden. Osama bin Laden was the mastermind behind the murders of nearly 3,000 Americans on September 11, 2001. The news of his death brings some comfort to the families of thousands of people who died in the 9/11 attacks and to the families of those who have died in the war on terror. During their recent mission, these SEALs proved that when the peace of our great Nation is threatened, we will stand up and fight.

Throughout the ongoing conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan, many other SEALs have performed equally heroic deeds. All Navy SEALs are elite commandos demonstrating the epitome of what we have in this country. One such example is local SEAL patriot, Marcus Luttrell, who I am proud to recognize and honor for his contributions to the global war on terrorism.

June 28, 2005 is a date the SEALs will forever remember. It was the worst single-day U.S. forces death toll since Operation Enduring Freedom began and it was the single largest loss of life in Navy SEAL history since World War II. Marcus Luttrell, a sixth generation country boy from Texas, survived to tell